

Allotment: Goose Creek C&H

The following letter will document your meeting with Peter Gula on March 24, 2015, and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2015 summer grazing season on the Goose Creek C&H Allotments. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

PERMITTEE(S)	Permitted Numbers	Permitted Season of Use	Authorized Numbers	Authorized Season of Use
Bruce Bedke	165 c/c Forest 33 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15 *	165 c/c Forest 33 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15 *
Cranny Farms	629 c/c Forest 218 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15 *	629 c/c Forest 218 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15 *
Michael Poulton	221 c/c Forest 48 c/c BLM 18 HM's Layton PVT Pasture	5/11-11/15 *	221 c/c Forest 48 c/c BLM 18 HM's Layton PVT Pasture	5/11-11/15 *
Winecup Inc.	484 c/c Forest	5/11-11/15 *	484 c/c Forest	5/11-11/15 *
*FS/BLM MOU dated 8/03/96 allows additional cattle on the Goose Creek allotment from 5/11 to 11/15 with the additional use occurring for a time on the adjoining BLM allotments. 13 days on the BLM Reservoir unit and 20 days on the BLM Coal Banks and Lower Beaverdam units.				
TOTAL LIVESTOCK	1499 c/c Forest 299 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15	1499 c/c Forest 299 c/c BLM	5/11-11/15

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT- This is the second year of this rotation. In 2016 and 2017 the rotation will be reversed.

2015 ROTATION SCHEDULE

PASTURE	No. of LIVESTOCK (1)	DATE ON (2)	DATE OFF	TOTAL DAYS
Dry Gulch Unit & BLM Coal Banks/Lower Beaver Dam Unit	1798	5/11	6/15	16- Forest 20- BLM
The Lower Beaverdam and Coal Banks units should be used for approximately 20 days with full numbers before livestock are allowed to enter the forest. Allowing livestock onto the forest before May 30 will likely shorten your ability to stay the full time in this unit.				
*Orangeburg & NE/Jay Unit	1798	6/16	7/30	45
*Livestock will be split evenly and distributed throughout both of these units for approximately the same time. This will reduce pressure on the Orangeburg riparian areas.				
*Upper Beaverdam Unit	1798	6/16	7/30	45
Livestock will be trailed thru the Lower Trout Creek Riparian Pasture. Livestock will not be allowed to overnight inside the Trout Creek pasture, but rather pushed through and moved beyond the West fence line. Use in this pasture should not exceed five days for the entire season.				
Piney Unit	1798	7/31	10/1	63

On October 1 everyone will leave the Piney unit and trail to private ground to wean before returning to the remaining units. **Livestock will be trailed thru the Lower Trout Creek Riparian Pasture without stopping. Livestock will not be allowed to overnight inside the Lower Trout Creek riparian pasture but rather pushed through and moved beyond the East fence line.** Use in this pasture should not exceed five days for the **entire** season.

Lone Cedar/Owens Corral Unit & BLM Reservoir Unit	1798	10/2	11/15	13- BLM 30- Forest
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Michael Poulton has a variable season for use on the Layton Private use pasture not to exceed 18 head months from May 11, 2011 to May 10, 2012. After weaning Michael Poulton will return for fall use in the BLM Reservoir area. Winecup will return to the BLM in the fall for use in the Reservoir unit. Cranny Farms will use the Lone Cedar unit on the Forest in the fall after weaning. Bruce Bedke will use the Bedke private pasture in the fall. Generally everyone will return to the allotment on or around 10/16. Please notify the Forest Service and BLM when you plan on returning.

1. All bulls or livestock over six months of age will be considered as a permitted animal. Livestock will be permitted on the allotment only for the season, numbers, and allotment shown on the Bill for Collection and after payment has been received.
2. Dates for rotation are to be considered approximate, actual dates will be determined by utilization levels. When utilization levels are reached for a particular unit, the cattle will be removed from that unit and placed in the next unit, or removed from the allotment as a whole if no units remain.

The pasture rotation schedule listed above is tentative as to days and dates and is our best estimate of equalizing the grazing on the unit. How soon the maximum allowable use level is reached depends on the number of animals, weather, and ability to use suitable range, herding, and other permittee practices. It will be your responsibility to see that your livestock are moved from one unit to the next before maximum allowed use is reached. Rotation/removal of livestock will be required if allowable use levels are met before the planned rotation/removal date. You are encouraged to have the livestock moved from one unit to the next within 5 days at the end of any rotation time frame. The permittee is responsible to manage his/her livestock not to exceed the allowable use levels.

It is critical that you intensively manage cattle this year to encourage even distribution of use. Riparian areas will need extra monitoring and when utilization is met, livestock will need to be moved to the next pasture or off the allotment.

COMPLIANCE:

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. Other situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, the District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next unit in your rotation or off the allotment, when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Peter. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

BILLING:

Grazing fees went up by \$.34 from last year. The fee is now \$1.69 per head per month.

Due Date:

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder, the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a minimum of 35 days prior to their earliest on date, to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

RIPARIAN SITES: Maximum 45% use of grasses, rushes and sedges or a minimum 4-inch stubble height of hydric greenline species, whichever occurs first.

Utilization standards for the Lower Trout Creek enclosure will be retention of 6 inch Stubble height in the riparian area along the greenline.

UPLAND SITES: Early season or season long pastures 40% use of key species. Vegetative slow growth, after seed ripe conditions, or late season pastures 50% use of key species mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, squirreltail.

IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements. As you're doing water trough maintenance, please install wildlife ramps in all troughs that currently don't have them.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Peter, and he will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2015 grazing season by December 30, 2015.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:

Allotment map showing pasture rotation and approximant rotation dates has been attached to your AOI. The scheduled dates of use are flexible, but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made to the below dates. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience non-use is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the non-use request with the permittee.

Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience non-use may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years, in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns about this grazing season, please call Peter at (208) 677-8290.

